

# **S T A T U T E**

## **OF SERBIAN ASSOCIATION OF PLANT BREEDERS AND SEED PRODUCERS**

### **I General**

#### **Article 1**

The name of the organisation is the Serbian Association of Plant Breeders and Seed Producers, Slobodana Bajića1, Belgrade, Serbia.

#### **Article 2**

The Serbian Association of Plant Breeders and Seed Producers (hereinafter referred to as the Association) is a voluntary social organisation of composed of individuals and companies engaged in plant breeding, seed production and marketing. The activities of the Association are performed on the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

#### **Article 3**

The Association has a status of a legal personality.

The Association uses a round seal with the words "SERBIAN ASSOCIATION OF PLANT BREEDERS AND SEED PRODUCERS" inscribed on its rim in Cyrillic and the word "BELGRADE" inscribed across the seal.

#### **Article 4**

All activities of the Association are open to the public. The Association informs its members about its activities through the website or via its journal and media.

#### **Article 5**

The Association is an independent association of professionals and companies regardless of the type of ownership.

The Association performs activities in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, this Statute, and other adopted acts and documents.

#### **Article 6**

The Association may associate with related organisations by signing contracts on association in accordance with the decision made at the meeting of the Assembly.

### **II Objectives, tasks and working methods of the Association**

#### **Article 7**

Objectives:

The Association organises and co-ordinates activities of all its members with the aim to improve, modernise and protect the standing interests of science and profession within the field of:

- Development, release, transfer, conservation and protection of plant varieties,
- Multiplication, control, processing and storage of seed, quality testing, variety and seed studies and seed certification of planting material,
- Regional distribution and multiplication of seed, trade of varieties and seeds, wholesale and retail sale of seeds, seed import and export.

In order to perform its activities, the Association cooperates with appropriate agencies, organisations, institutions, individuals and other interested societies, businesses and professional associations.

### **Article 8**

Tasks:

- Organisation and holding of meetings, conferences, congresses in the field of breeding, seed production and growing of agricultural plants
- Cooperation with the Ministry of Science and Technological Development and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
- Initiating and providing opinions on the important issues of common interest in education, research, economic conditions and regulations in the field of plant breeding, seed production and marketing, as well as measures and policies of the state if they relate to the aforementioned fields.
- Proposing solutions that are directly related to the most important problems of plant breeding, seed production and marketing.
- Establishment of working bodies responsible for providing technical assistance
- Cooperation with appropriate agencies, organisations, institutions, individuals and other interested societies and professional associations.

### **Article 9**

Scope:

- Breeding of agricultural plants
- Production of seeds and planting material
- Distribution and marketing of varieties and seeds

### **Article 10**

Principal activities of the Association are:

- Popularisation of new agricultural and forest plant varieties , growing practices of seed crops and planting material, processing, packing and quality control
- Connecting breeders and presenting growing practices to interested clients
- Organisation of scientific meetings, symposia, conferences, congresses, courses and lectures, scientific excursions
- Publication of the journal "Plant Breeding and Seed Production" that is exchanged with other publishing houses in the country and abroad, editing of newspapers, journals and newsletters on plants.

### **III Membership of the Association**

#### **Article 11**

Scientists, professionals, and companies from the Republic of Serbia engaged in activities within the scope of the Association may be members under equal conditions.

Members of the Association have the following rights and obligations:

- to participate in the activities of Association organs and bodies,
- to be informed of the activities and financial transactions of the Association,
- to initiate, accept and perform certain tasks,
- to settle their financial and other obligations to the Association,
- to receive journals of the Association,
- to be awarded or paid for their activities according to ability and their efforts

Except in cases prescribed by Law, the membership may be terminated by a written statement of a member, expulsion by the decision of the Assembly or by the termination of the Association.

#### **Article 12**

The Association can have honorary and merit members declared by the Assembly according to an elaborate proposal for membership by its members or an organ or a body. A prominent expert or a researcher who is not a member of the Association can be declared an honorary member, if they significantly contributed to the implementation of the Association activities. An honorary member can be declared a member of the Association who is exceptionally merited for the improvement of the work and reputation of the Association.

### **IV Organisation and organs of the Associations**

#### **Article 13**

Organs of the Association are the Assembly, Steering Committee and the President of the Assembly. The term of office of organs and bodies of the Association is three years. Each delegate can be re-elected.

#### **Article 14**

The Assembly of the Association consists of all members of the Association and representatives of companies who are the Association members.

The President of the Association is at the same time its member and as a rule is elected from among the members of the Assembly.

The Assembly holds regular annual sessions. Extraordinary sessions of the Assembly can be held if necessary. Between two sessions, the activities and the responsibilities of the Assembly are coordinated in writing, electronically or through the presentation of the Association over the Internet.

#### **Article 15**

The responsibilities of the Assembly are:

- adoption of the Statute and other legal regulations and decision making ;
- declaring the mode of the organisation of the Association;
- appointment, election and dismissal of the Steering Committee and other organs and bodies of the Assembly;
- adoption of the programme and working plans of the Association;
- election of the President and the representatives of the Association;
- deciding on the amounts of fees for the Association;
- adoption of the annual financial statement;
- consideration and approval of reports on activities and of other reports;
- proclamation of honourable and meritorious members;
- making decisions, drawing conclusions, stating opinions, giving initiatives and proposals on behalf of the Association;
- making decisions on allying into unions;
- making decisions on the Association status changes.

### **Article 16**

The Assembly makes statements by a public vote.

The decision can be taken only by one-half of present members of the Assembly plus one. In case of equality of votes the vote of the President of the Assembly is decisive. To provide a record on decisions, conclusions and proposals minutes are kept on the Assembly activities.

The invitation with the agenda and materials for the ordinary sessions of the Assembly is publicly announced over the internet presentation of the Association at least 15 days prior to a session.

### **Article 17**

The Assembly can establish either temporary or permanent auxiliary and working groups and committees such as: the breeding improvement committee, seed production improvement committee and the seed trade improvement committee. The decision on the establishment determines the duration, structure, tasks and rules adopted by the Assembly on the proposal of the Steering Committee of the Association.

The Arbitration Committee of the Association is established in order to protect the rights of members and the Association, solve internal disputed issues, control the enforcement of regulations and supervise the financial operations. Duties, structure and rules of this committee are adopted by the Assembly on the proposal of the Steering Committee of the Association.

### **Article 18**

The Steering Committee is an executive organ of the Assembly and is responsible for the implementation of the provisions of the Statute, programmed and planned activities, decisions and conclusions of the Assembly.

The Steering Committee consists of the President, two Vice Presidents and seven members.

The President, two Vice Presidents and members of the Steering Committee are elected by the Assembly based on the reasoned statement of the Election Committee, which consists of three members appointed at the session of the Election Assembly. When proposing candidates, i.e. electing members of the Steering Committee attention is paid to the

involvement of sections, groups, scope of activities and those affiliates, which consist of more than 51 members - individuals.

The Steering Committee is accountable to the Assembly.

The Steering Committee is obliged to provide funds for planned activities within the scope of activities of the Association.

### **Article 19**

Steering Committee meetings are called by the President as needed at least twice a year.

### **Article 20**

The President of the Assembly is also the President of the Steering Committee.

The President represents the Association, takes care of adequate and timely implementation of decisions, conclusions and other acts of the Assembly and the Steering Committee and signs the acts passed by the Assembly and the Steering Committee.

One of the Vice Presidents takes over when the President is absent.

### **Article 21**

The Assembly elects the Secretary General of the Association who is a person paid to perform professional, administrative and treasury activities in accordance with the acts of the Assembly and the Steering Committee.

Secretaries are automatically members of the Assembly.

## **V Financing of the Association**

### **Article 22**

The Association regulates liabilities with its members by the decisions of the Assembly, contracts and application forms for admission to the Association, while funds are provided by membership fees, registration fees, activities and programme actions, publishing, contributions, donations, gifts and other sources in accordance with legal regulations, this Statute and decisions of the Assembly.

### **Article 23**

Financial operations of the Association are carried out through drawing accounts.

Funds for activities are provided by the financial plan, which defines the income and expenses in accordance with purposes presented in the working programme and the current affairs of the organs and the bodies of the Association, as well as the amounts necessary to cover determined expenditures.

## **VI Transitional and final provisions**

### **Article 24**

The Association can be dissolved only by a decision made by the Assembly and if the majority of the members vote for the dissolution or when necessary circumstances happen. To whom the assets of the Association will be transferred will be in accordance with the Law and will be determined by the decision on the dissolution of the Association.

The Association, as a non-profit legal entity, operates using state-owned property on the premises of the Maize Research Institute, Zemun Polje, where the head office of the Association is located.

### **Article 25**

This Statute entered into force upon its adoption on the session of the Assembly held at the Maize Research Institute, Zemun Polje, Slobodana Bajića 1, Belgrade on April 29, 2011, and after its verification by the Business Registers Agency.

Mirjana Srebrić, M.Sc.  
President of the Assembly